

approved 1/24/11

**OCONEE COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD  
MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING  
October 11, 2010**

The meeting of the OCLB was called to order by Chairman Brian Hawkins. Members present included Susan Brodrick, Deann Craft, Patricia Hallow, Kelly Holt, Phyllis Luke, Dorothy Peltier, Janet Stratton, Jerry Studdard, Robert Wyatt, and Art Zimmerman. The board extended a welcome to our new member Scott Gordon, appointed by Oconee County School District. Also present were Kathryn Ames, Donna Brumby, and Jackie Elsner. Brian called for the approval of the July minutes. Jerry Studdard made the motion to approve the minutes and Robert Wyatt seconded.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There are no public comments to report.

**BRANCH MANAGER'S REPORT**

Jackie reviewed her report beginning with the results of the Summer Reading Programs and ending with the End-of-the-Summer parties. She reported a large attendance at all the programs offered for children, teens, and adults. Jackie, along with Alice Rossiter and Tammy Gerson of the Athens-Clarke Library staff, applied for a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and American Library Association Initiative: Louisa May Alcott: The Woman Behind Little Women—Library Outreach Programs. If awarded the grant the Oconee County Library will produce three Alcott programs during the spring of 2011.

Jackie noted that the new Internet Filtering categories activated at both libraries did not result in any increase in requests to un-filter our computers. She reported that the Knox boxes were now ready at both libraries for any emergencies. And Jackie said that orders have been placed for the Seed Pod Kiosk and the benches for family reading. Staff training continues utilizing "webinars" as a means of training and some staff did attend library associations' conferences.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Kathryn reported that there was going to be a shared Staff Development Day meeting in November at the Oconee County Civic Center to discuss library technology, changes coming to Evergreen, the Pines Network, making presentations at schools before summer, sharing library resources, among other topics. Five counties with over 200 people were invited. Three experts have been invited to talk on how to get children interested in summer reading. And there will be something on basic genealogy resources and some talk on diversity. The most important topic will be the reduction in money provided by the state for libraries. There was the reduction for books from 60 cents to 16 1/2 cents, and even that may be cut to 10 cents. There has been a 14% reduction in our state grants and that may be as much as 30% reduction in the future. This has become the first time we have tried to have such a cooperative effort with our surrounding counties to work on these issues. Kathryn reminded us that we must continue to find ways to cut our spending but not hurt the many programs that our libraries provide. This year alone we had a 5.65% reduction in funds, which comes to a little over \$53,000. Next year there is to be a \$135,000 cut expected. She reminds us that we need to ask our legislature to also support the renovations needed for our Oconee and Bogart libraries. She noted how much the Oconee County Library Friends with their annual Book Sale and SPLOST have helped us so much. And finally she reminded us that work on our Strategic Plan will be due in January and we need to start preparing our 2012 budget.

Kathryn reviewed the beginning of the fiscal year for Revenue and Expenditures, noting that we have only received approximately 23% of our anticipated budget. Our expenditures are at approximately 25% with programming incentives at higher than expected costs. The Oconee County BOC In-behalf support expenditures are at approximately 21% and the In-behalf and actual expenditures are at 24%. Good news included that the Gift Income and Expenses account for Watkinsville holds a balance of \$11,321.65 and for

Bogart a balance of 3,430.68. Kathryn mentioned that the Fund Equity ("Reserve") was still under-funded at this time but it is much lower than it has been. Kathryn again warned that more budget reductions might be coming in FY11. The state funding of 16.5 cents/capita could change and salaries may not increase. She advised us not to use the reserve fund for salary increases.

## **FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES REPORTS**

### **Oconee County Library Friends**

Jackie reported that the Oconee County Library Friends paid to have Fiddlin' Dan, The Mountain Man, perform for the children in July. The Friends also contributed proceeds from the Used Book Sale Room to the Oconee County Gift Account. Members of the OCLF also volunteered 48 hours assisting Assistant Branch Manager Evelyn Knauf researching "Collector's Room donations. They collected and sorted the book donations for the very successful Annual Used Book Sale that was held at the Rocket Hall this year for the first time.

### **Bogart Library Friends**

Jackie reported that the Bogart Library Friends increased their hours at the Friends of the Bogart Library Bookstore. They also paid to have Fiddlin' Dan, The Mountain Man, to perform for the children in July in Bogart and sold Popsicles at this event. And finally they raised funds at the Bogart Fall Festival.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Kathryn decided that since we are at the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Civil War that an appropriate recognition for Representative Bob Smith could be some books with emphasis on the Civil War in Georgia donated in his name. She also thought that the board could have a plaque made honoring him for his library support also placed in the library. The board agreed that this would be done.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Recognition was given to board members, Lisa Vaughn, Phyllis Luke, and Dorothy Peltier, who were leaving the library board at the end of 2010, included Certificates of Appreciation and books selected to be donated to the library in their name. These included Bernard Cornwall's "The Fort", Sara Gruen's "Ape House", and Ken Follett's "Fall of Giants".

Selections of appointees to various positions were made. Kelly Holt would become the new Secretary for the board. Pat Hallow was appointed to the Finance Committee. Jerry Studdard, Art Zimmerman, Janet Stratton were appointed to the Regional Board. Scott Gordon was appointed to the Intellectual Freedom committee.

Members of the Board were not in favor of removing of the book "The Awakening and Other Stories" by Kate Chopin requested by a library patron who will be notified of this decision.

Discussion of setting a Proctoring Fee went on for quite awhile. A \$5.00 fee per test was approved. The Librarian was invited to report actual costs of proctoring tests at a later date, for Board consideration to adjust fee.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 10, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. at the Oconee County Library.

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Peltier, Secretary, OCLB